

Management Practices certification process.

- Developed components of a grant and loan solicitation process in preparation for a 2001 solicitation for proposals.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Stakeholders have contributed significantly to developing the WUE Program. Much of their participation was through steering and ad hoc committees and work groups. Examples include the Agricultural WUE Steering Committee, a consensus-based advisory group that included four agricultural, four environmental, four CALFED agencies and two Agricultural Water Management Council representatives. This steering committee provided advice and key concepts to the agricultural portions of the WUE Program. Similar input was gathered through the Urban Ad Hoc WUE Committee and the Recycling Ad Hoc Committee. These two entities also had broad stakeholder representation and operated through a consensus process. In addition to periodic meetings of stakeholder committees, meetings and workshops were conducted to disseminate recent results and solicit input. For example, three technical workshops were conducted in October to provide the status and background to develop the agricultural quantifiable objectives.

NEXT STEPS: Upcoming tasks for 2001 include:

- Continuing efforts on refining agricultural quantifiable objectives and the urban BMP certification process.
- Working on more detailed milestones to achieve WUE goals.
- Convening an expert panel to define appropriate measurement of conserved water.
- Soliciting and awarding WUE grants and loans.
- Developing and implementing technical assistance programs.
- Forming a WUE Public Advisory Committee.

